

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF REGULATION & LICENSING



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STATE OF WISCONSIN
BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF

DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

HOWARD W. BESSETTE, R.N.,

Respondent

ORDER GRANTING STAY

On August 8, 2003, the Board of Nursing issued its Final Decision and Order in the above-captioned matter. By the terms of the board's Order, Mr. Bessette's license was suspended for an indefinite period.. Mr. Bessette was permitted to petition the board for consecutive three month stays of the suspension, which would be granted upon submission of satisfactory evidence that Mr. Bessette had in the previous three month period, complied with limitations on the license. Included among these were that he enroll and continue successful participation in all components of a drug and alcohol treatment program at a treatment facility acceptable to the Board; that participate in individual and/or group therapy sessions for the first year of the stayed suspension upon a schedule as recommended by the supervising physician or therapist, but not less than once weekly; that he attend Narcotics Anonymous and/or Alcoholic Anonymous meetings or an equivalent program for recovering professionals, upon a frequency as recommended by the supervising physician or therapist, but not less than one meeting per week. The Order also requires that Mr. Bessette participate in a drug and alcohol monitoring program requiring the testing of urine specimens at a frequency of not less than 52 times per year. Respondent is required to practice only under the general supervision of a licensed professional nurse or other licensed health care professional approved by the Board or in a work setting pre-approved by the Board and is responsible for submission of quarterly work reports from his employer. Finally, respondent is required to refrain from access to or the administration of controlled substances in his work setting until such time as access or administration is approved by the Board.

On September 5, 2003, the board considered Mr. Bessette's request for an initial three month stay of the suspension. Based upon all information of record herein, including evidence that Mr. Bessette had complied with the terms and conditions set forth in the board's Order during the preceding three month period, the board orders as follows:

ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that the suspension of the license of Howard W. Bessette, RN, to practice as a professional nurse in Wisconsin is hereby stayed for a period of three months.

Dated this 9th day of September, 2003.

STATE OF WISCONSIN
BOARD OF NURSING

Linda M. Sanner, RN
Chair